

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Governor's Task Force on Drug Enforcement, Treatment, and Prevention Hosts its Second Meeting in Evansville

INDIANAPOLIS – The Governor's Task Force on Drug Enforcement, Treatment, and Prevention hosted its second meeting in Evansville on Thursday, October 15. Presentations were offered from the following individuals and organizations:

- Nicholas Hermann, Vanderburgh County Prosecuting Attorney
- Donna Purviance, DNP, FNC-BC, Goodman Campbell Brain & Spine
- First Sergeant Jeff Bell, Vigo County Sheriff's Office
- Dr. Miriam Komaromy, ECHO Institute
- Parri Black, Youth First, Inc.

Additionally, Evansville residents Sean O'Daniel, and Jeremy Forgy offered public comment.

At the completion of the meeting, a list of action items were discussed, and a vote was taken as to which items would be presented to the Governor. The following action items will be presented to the Governor:

- Direct the Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH) to convene a working group to send recommendations on improvements and best practices related to INSPECT, to the INSPECT Oversight Committee (For more information on INSPECT, visit: <http://www.in.gov/pla/inspect/>).
- Request the Commission for Improving the Status of Children make recommendations through its Educational Outcomes Task Force and Substance Abuse and Child Safety Task Force on the following:
 - Developing age-appropriate substance abuse curriculum for students.
 - Finding ways to better connect affected youth with substance abuse services.
- Direct the Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH) to work with appropriate entities including those that represent physicians, nurses, dentists, physician assistants, podiatrists, and veterinarians to develop guidelines for prescribing acute pain medications.
- Direct appropriate entities to promulgate with all expediency chronic pain prescribing rules for all prescribers.
- Direct the Indiana Department of Homeland Security (IDHS) to identify gaps in Naloxone availability compared with overdose demographics.

For additional information about the Task Force, as well as a list of resources, post-meeting recordings, minutes, presentation materials, and upcoming agendas, please visit: www.drugtaskforce.in.gov.

Established by Executive Order, the Task Force brings together Indiana experts from a variety of specialties to evaluate the growing national drug problem here in Indiana. A future Task Force meeting will be held in South Bend in November; information about this meeting will be released at a later date.

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